

Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 MMO-01 PER-01 NSC-05 SS-15 OMB-01

SP-02 ABF-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 EURE-00 /054 W

----- 023759

P R 081016Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9524

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SOPHIA PASS TO VONTILLIUS AT PLOVDIV

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EEWT, XR, AU

SUBJECT: CLOSING OF EAST-WEST TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (EWTDO)

REF: A. STATE 213622, B. USDOC 15106, C. USDOC 15069

D. VIENNA 7446, E. VIENNA 6995

1. PURSUANT TO RECENT EXCHANGES OF MESSAGES, WE PLAN TO SCHEDULE CLOSING OF EWTDO FOR SEPT. 24, AND TO REINCORPORATE ITS BASIC SERVICES (EXCEPT FOR USDOC TRADE FAIR SUPPORT OPERATION) INTO THE EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL PROGRAM. KOSEK POSITION WILL BE ADDED TO ECON/COM ROSTER PER REF A.

2. TO ANNOUNCE CHANGE, WE PROPOSE TO ISSUE SHORT PRESS RELEASE AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1976, THE EAST-WEST TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, WHICH PRESENTLY IS LOCATED
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AT FRIEDERICH SCHMIDT-PLATZ 2, WILL BE CLOSED, AND ITS

EASTERN EUROPEAN TRADE INFORMATION SERVICES RETURNED TO THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SECTION OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OPERATION TO ASSIST AMERICAN FIRMS IN PARTICIPATING IN EAST EUROPEAN TRADE FAIRS WILL REMAIN AT THE PRESENT LOCATION.

SINCE ITS INAUGURATION IN 1973, THE EAST-WEST TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE HAS PLAYED A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN FACILITATING INCREASED CONTACT FOR AMERICAN FIRMS AND BANKS INTERESTED IN EXPANDING THEIR ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION, DURING A VERY IMPORTANT TRANSITIONAL PERIOD IN U.S. RELATIONS WITH THAT AREA. THE CLOSING OF THE OFFICE REFLECTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF FULLER, AND IN SOME CASES SPECIALIZED ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES AT AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE, AS WELL AS A REORGANIZATION IN U.S. GOVERNMENT TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES.

MR. HENNING VONTILLIUS WILL CONTINUE TO HEAD THE TRADE FAIR SUPPORT OPERATION. MESSRS. WILHELM KOSEK AND RICHARD LOMAS, WHO ALSO HAVE BEEN WITH THE EAST-WEST TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE SINCE ITS START, WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AND THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE. UNQUOTE. WE ALSO PLAN TO INFORM GOA AUTHORITIES AND U.S. AND AUSTRIAN COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVING STRONG INTEREST IN EWTDO ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF RELEASE IN EFFORT TO HANDLE CHANGE IN AS LOW KEY MANNER AS POSSIBLE.

3. FINAL ISSUE OF TRADE INFORMATION BULLETIN WILL BE DISTRIBUTED CONCURRENTLY WITH PRESS RELEASE. BULLETIN WILL CONTAIN NOTICE OF DISCONTINUANCE SUGGESTED REF. C, AND ALSO WILL ENCLOSE PRESS STATEMENT.

4. REVISED ANNUAL FISCAL PLAN REQUESTED REF. B HAS BEEN SUBMITTED AS VIENNA 7446.
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5. SINCE PRESS STATEMENT AND BULLETIN SHOULD BE RELEASED NO LATER THAN SEPT. 20, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENT ON PROPOSED SCHEDULE OR TEXT SOONEST.
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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CLOSURE OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760979/aaaacqgq.tel
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: BEXP, EEWT, XR, AU
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006